THE

WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

For MONDAY, July 13, 1807.

ANECDOTES *of the late* EDWARD JORDEN, M. D.

THIS learned physician was born of a good family at High Halden, Kent, and after receiving a preparatory education, was removed to Hart-hall, Oxford, where he studied some time, but without taking a degree. Having chosen physic for his profession, he went abroad and visited different universities, particularly Padua, then the most famous medical school in Europe. He there took his doctor's degree in that faculty, and returning to his native country was admitted a member of the royal college of physicians. He settled at first in London, and became very distinguished in his profession: but having a great inclination to mineral works, (says his biographer) he was at great charges about the making of alum, which not succeeding according to expectation, he was thereby much injured in his estate.

He was much respected by King James, who committed the queen to his care when she made use of the Bath waters. The same monarch also employed him in another case, which is curious enough to deserve notice in this place. A young woman in the country was troubled with such unaccountable symptoms, as caused a report to be spread abroad that she was bewitched. James had great faith in the doctrine of demonology, and wrote a ponderous book in its defence against Reginald Scott, and other sceptical writers on that subject. This circumstance, therefore, afforded him an opportunity of proving the truth of his positions. By his orders the possessed person was brought up to London, and placed under the observation and care of Dr. Jorden, who, by giving her simple things without any thing of a medicinal nature, and by other means, discovered the cheat, which he reported to the king. The girl was at first

very unwilling to disclose the juggle, but after some threats and promises, she confessed that "sometime before there happened a difference between a female neighbour of her father's and himself, and having, in his own apprehension, no better way to be avenged of her than this, he impiously caused his daughter, on the receiving of the sacrament, to engage to imitate one bewitched, and ascribe it to that woman, which she did, and acted this part in so exact and wonderful a manner, that she deceived all the country where she lived, who thought it to be a truth. After which confession she was very quiet, and the king giving her a portion, she married, and thus was cured of her mimical witchery."

After practising some time in London, Dr. Jorden removed to Bath, where he lived many years, enjoying the "applause of the learned, the respect of the rich, the prayers of the poor, and the love of all."

He married the daughter of a gentleman named *Jordan*, in Wiltshire, the account of which marriage being very singular, I shall give it in my author's own words.

"The doctor being on a journey benighted on Salisbury Plain, and knowing not which way to ride, happened to meet a shepherd, of whom he made enquiry what places were near, where he might have entertainment for that night: the shepherd telling him there was no place near enough for him conveniently to reach in any seasonable time, the doctor asked what gentleman lived thereabouts; the shepherd replied, there was one Mr. Jordan not far off, a man of good quality, and a great estate. Presently the doctor (looking on this as a good omen) resolved on his house; where he was so kindly entertained, and so well accepted, that Mr. Jordan understanding him to be a bachelor, bestowed his daughter on him, with a considerable fortune."

By his lady he had four children. Edward the elder was an ensign in the attack of the isle of Rhé, where he was slain, "making his colours his winding-sheet." His eldest daughter was married to Mr. Thomas Benford, an apothecary at Bath, and mayor of the city: the others died young.

Dr. Jorden died of the stone and gout in 1632, aged 63, and was buried in the abbey-church at Bath. His works are,

1. "A Brief Discourse, called the Suffocation of the Mother," &c. London, 1603, 4to.

2. "A Discourse of Natural Baths, and Mineral Waters; wherein the original of Fountains in general is declared. The Nature and Difference of Minerals, with Examples of particular Baths. The Generation of Minerals in the Earth, from whence both the actual heat of Baths, and their Virtues proceed. By what means Mineral Waters are to be discovered. And lastly, of the Nature and Uses of Baths, but especially of our

our Baths at Bathe, in Somersetshire," 4to. 1631. Again in 1632, and revised and corrected by Dr. Guidott in 1669, 8vo. This is a performance of no ordinary ingenuity, and evinces, for the period, great chemical and mineralogical knowledge. From the preface to the last mentioned edition, the above particulars are taken.

LONDON FASHIONS *for* JULY,

As described in the Eighteenth Number of "La Belle Assemblee; or, Bell's Court and Fashionable Magazine," published July 1.

ENGLISH COSTUME.

No. 1.

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS OF WALES IN HER COURT DRESS,

As worn on the Birth-Day.

THIS dress, for taste and magnificence, stood unrivalled amidst the splendour and elegance displayed on the birth-day of our justly revered sovereign; and we consider ourselves fortunate in having it in our power to procure a representation of it for our fair correspondents.

The body and ground of the drapery was formed of a rich silver and lilac tissue; with a most superb border, composed of emeralds, topazes, and amethysts, to represent the vine-leaf and grapes. The train and petticoat of silver tissue; bordered all round like the drapery, and each terminated with a most brilliant silver fringe of a strikingly novel formation. Rich silver laurel and arrow on the left side, to loop up the train. Head-dress of diamonds and amethysts, tastefully disposed; with high plume of ostrich feathers. Neck-dress, the winged ruff, *à la* Mary queen of Scots; sleeve ornaments to correspond. Amethyst necklace and ear-rings, with Maltese cross; diamond armlets and bracelets. White satin shoes, with rich silver rosettes. French kid gloves, above the elbow. Fan of imperial crape, studded with amethysts and topazes.

No. 2.

PARISIAN FASHIONS,

Taken from a Group of Conversation Figures at the Frescati, in Paris.

LADIES DRESS.

A white Italian crape robe, over a white satin slip, ornamented round the bottom and drapery with a border of shells, painted

painted to nature. Plain scolloped bosom cut very low, and made to sit close to the form. Waved sleeves, easily full, formed of alternate stripes of crape and pink satin. Hair, bound in smooth bands, confined on the forehead, and ornamented behind with wreaths of wild roses. Ear-rings and necklace of pearls. Shoes, pink satin, trimmed with silver. White kid gloves, rucked.

THE RING,

A Moral Tale.

By the Authoress of the Occasional Essays.

(Continued from Page 528.)

THE happy morn was not ushered in with any wonderful prodigies that we know of; the birds caroled, and turned their little throats as usual; the sun too, rose in the east, spreading his dazzling rays, and brightening into refulgent majesty, darted his glorious beams on all nature's creation, as well as the happy pair.

All we know is—the company breakfasted something earlier than usual, and afterwards retired to dress. Nor are we going to fill pages with an elaborate description of the bridal robes, but simply say, they were composed of plain white satin, richly trimmed with Mechlin lace, interspersed with flowers, elegantly fashioned out of the finest oriental pearls, with head dress and ornaments to match. Not the least glitter of a diamond, but what surrounded a picture his lordship had presented her with of himself, and which hung suspended by a row of full sized pearls from her neck. Thus arrayed, in purity of taste and elegance, the emblems of her spotless soul, Lord Woodly led the blushing bride, "nothing loth," attended by her maids, into the drawing-room, where the earl put into the hand of the reverend divine a special licence.

But here a little circumstance arose, which not only greatly distressed the bride, but rather disconcerted the rest of the company. This was nothing more than that the good rector, notwithstanding the special licence, perfect in its form for the occasion, positively refused pronouncing the nuptial benediction out of the church: saying, that as they were about to perform an act in which there was no shame, there needed no secresy; an act honourable to themselves and society. That it was inconsistent with our holy religion, that countenanced no such huddling in the dark. She had her proper sanctuary, consecrated to God, for the performance of her rites; that the

bonds

bonds of marriage were most sacred, a reciprocal and solemn pledge of mutual faith, registered by the most solemn vows in Heaven, and there, the act being conformable to the will of the divine majesty, was ratified by God himself; nor would he receive their vows, but at his altar.

As no one would presume to offer any thing in contradiction to so forcible an argument, delivered too with such divine fervor, Truman began to prepare for a change of scene. A bank note was sealed up in a letter of apology to the vicar, requesting the permission of his friend to officiate on this occasion. The carriages drew up, and the company proceeded to church, where the worthy rector, in an audible, and most impressive manner, performed the awful ceremony that made them one. The marriage now was no longer a secret, or was it necessary it should be so; for as no invitations had been given, company could not intrude, and the happiness of the noble pair were confined to the witness of a few select friends. On their return from church, the earl taking his lovely bride tenderly by the hand, led her to her father, to whom they both knelt for blessings, as well as to her grandfather, and Lord Woodly, whom the earl revered as a parent. The company coming forward with compliments of congratulation, the rector, smiling, said he should insist on his right, in having the first salute of the bride; the good man pressed her most affectionately in his arms, said he loved her as his own child, kissed her with the fondness of a father, then making a respectful bow, wished her *ladyship* joy.

The joy indeed was general, and smiled on every face: the ladies too having more time on their hands, more critically examined the dress of the bride; being now a relative they said, emboldened them to be free. It almost surpassed their wonder, that such peculiar neatness could be preserved in a robe so superb, and of such immense value! complimenting her ladyship on her elegance and taste. "Ay, ay," replied Truman, laughing, "she is an expensive hussey, but that now," turning to the earl, "is your lordship's business, and not mine; I have given her into good hands, and am truly thankful! But apropos: I have some baubles here, that I might as well throw off my hands too at once." So opening a shagreen case, that he had taken from his pocket, displayed the miniatures, formerly mentioned, of the earl and himself, painted by our heroine, which were then fashioned into bracelets, most elegantly and tastefully set, and richly embellished with brilliants of the first water. The happy father then clasped them round the wrists of her finely proportioned, well turned arms, that rivalled the pearls with which they were strung in whiteness.

Such a glittering appendage to dress, could not fail of exciting the admiration of the company; much encomium was given

given to the skill of the artist, whom all allowed to be a complete master of his profession. The earl could not but be highly pleased at seeing his own resemblance, and as he had not presented it to her, supposed it had been copied from the one which then decorated her bosom; and turning to Truman, asked the name of the painter? The bride coloured, and gave her father an expressive look, imposing silence; but the good man declared that such nonsense was now all done away, and there ought to be no secrets between man and wife, and without subterfuge or evasion related the whole affair, to the great confusion of the bride, and the extatic joy of the bridegroom, who not only rapturously kissed her hand, but even had the audacity to make a finish on her lips. But this is always the case with these lords of the creation—*men*—it therefore behoves every young lady to be on the alert, never once to be thrown off her guard, 'till she has put it out of the sly creature's power to do mischief, as there is really no saying how far a man's impudence might carry him!

"Well, my lord," said Truman, "had not I reason to believe you had a friend in the fort, when your lordship requested me to be *candid?*"

The good old grandfather observed, such things were all vastly fine, though he knew nothing at all about them, such matters being out of a grocer's line. But as he was going to decline business, and had a few sugar-plumbs on hand, he had packed them up in a red leather case (throwing a pocket-book, containing bank notes for 5000l. into the bride's lap), and that his dear girl might have them polished into diamonds as soon as she pleased; having been told that countesses were apt to fancy such gewgaws and trumpery, which he and his old dame did not understand. "Mary," continued the grocer, "never wore any thing but a *mob*, ever since I knew her; and when she has got her laced one on of a Sunday, though she is now near seventy, you cannot think how handsome she looks!"

After preventing their being farther stunned with the ringing of bells, the happy group passed a most agreeable day. Breakfast over the next morning, Lady Gertrude, Miss Bloomly and Merit returned to the hall; the rector and old Truman took their leave also, with a thousand blessings on the wedded pair. Mrs. Love, at the entreaty of the bride, remained to assist her in some ceremonials, among the circle of her friends, who were pouring in compliments of congratulation on the occasion.

Etiquette finished, the noble pair, with Mr. Truman, sat off in a splendid carriage of a new construction, attended with their suit in rich liveries on horseback, for Grandfield-hall, where they arrived among the acclamations of his lordship's tenants, and where a numerous assemblage of the earl's relatives and friends were waiting to receive them, and pay their

compliments to his lovely bride. Lady Gertrude and Merit had not been idle, but had actively taken a part in the preparations for celebrating the general joy. Sumptuous dinners were prepared for the guests within, and a roasted ox, &c. for those without, together with hogsheads of strong beer, some of which was brewed at his lordship's birth, as much as they could drink, and unbounded liberality and festivity prevailed; there were also two balls and a concert, for which the first performers in the musical line were engaged, and the whole concluded with a grand fete.

Having conducted the Countess Grandfield to the family mansion of her lord, we shall lay down the pen, to take and give our readers a little breath, not that we mean, in imitation of some of our brothers and sisters of the quill, to leave our heroine a mere dead letter; when, in fact, the most important events of a woman's life, more generally take place after marriage, than before; at least so it happened with the countess.

These events then, together with the detail of a RING, and its fatal consequences, will be briefly given in a concluding postcript.

(To be continued)

Account of the First Experiment of the Public Use of Gas Lights.

ON Thursday evening the 4th of June, 1807, the first public exhibition of Mr. Winsor's gas lights took place in honour of his majesty's birth-day, in the lighting of a great length of lamps, similar to the side of a street, at a considerable distance from the carbonizing furnace. This experiment was made on the wall which separates the hall in St. James's Park from Carlton-House Gardens. The works had been for some time in preparation, and private trials had previously been made, to prove the air-tightness of the tubes of communication: which were of tinned iron, with soldered joints, except at certain distances, where they are otherwise cemented together for the convenience of removal. The diameter of the long pipe is one inch and half; it commences in the two close carbonizing iron furnaces in Mr. Winsor's house in Pall Mall, one capable of containing and cokeing four pecks, and the other two pecks of common pit or sea coal; and by means of stop cocks, one or both of these furnaces can be made to send its gas into the pipes above mentioned; which first proceed south, about ten yards under ground, until they enter the prince of Wales's gardens, belonging to Carlton-house. From hence the pipe proceeds W. for about one hundred and forty yards, rising gradually

gradually against the garden wall, to which it is affixed, until it arrives at the N.W. corners of the garden; whence it is conducted one hundred and fifty-three yards S. on the top of the wall which separates the prince's from Marlborough-house garden, to the door at the S.W. corner of Carleton-gardens. Here the first light or illumination was produced by a thin and broad stream of gas from a small tube or branch from the pipe; which gave a very brilliant light in the open air without a glass cover.

From this point the communicating pipe proceeded along the top of the wall for two hundred and fifty yards in an east direction, to the private door in the wall opening into the hall, having on it thirty-two tubes or burners, inclosed in glasses of different shapes and constructions, and some naked burners without glass covers. On one of the piers of this private door, a four-branch gas burner with reflectors, in imitation of the prince's feathers had a very pleasing and appropriate effect. From this private door, the tube proceeded fifty yards further, withinside of the wall, to the back gates of Carlton-gardens, and there terminated in a grand transparency erected over the gate-way, consisting on one side of a number of cut-glass stars and other devices, with gas-lights behind each, besetting the crown and letters G. R. The transparency after a while was turned round, and exhibited on the other side, in illuminated letters, the following ode:

Sing praise to that power celestial,
Whom wisdom and goodness adorn!
On this day—in regions terrestrial,
Great George, our lov'd sov'reign was born.
Rejoice, rejoice, 'tis George's natal day.

Oh, hail this glad day so propitious,
When George our dread monarch appear'd,
Rememb'rance to Britons delicious,
Of a king as a parent rever'd.
Rejoice, &c.

Vouchsafe, then, ye pow'rs celestial,
Long health to a life so endear'd;
The greatest of blessings terrestrial
God send to our king so rever'd!
Rejoice, &c.

The inflammable gas, which is quite transparent or invisible, began to flow in the pipes soon after eight o'clock, and a lamplighter, or person with a small wax-taper (the evening being quite serene), appeared, and lighted the gas issuing from each burner in succession: some time after, a very large burner or

assemblage of small streams of gas was lighted on the top of the transparency, which was not however illuminated for a long time afterwards.

The light produced by these gas lamps, was clear, bright, and colourless, and from the success of this considerable experiment, in point of the number of lights, the distance and length of pipe, hopes may now be entertained that this long-talked of mode of lighting our streets may at length be realized. The mall continued crowded with spectators, until near twelve o'clock, and they seemed much amused and delighted by this novel exhibition.

Your's, &c.

F.

BATTLE *off* TRAFALGAR.

[From Semple's Journey through Spain.]

MR. SEMPLE happened to reach Cadiz a few days after the memorable battle of Trafalgar; a battle never to be named by an Englishman but with pride and regret. He gives the following account of what he saw relative to that great event.

"I have already mentioned some of the effects of the great battle of Trafalgar, visible in crossing the bay of Cadiz. There a large vessel bilged and lying broadside upon the rocks, a second stranded, with all her masts gone, and a groupe of others which seemed to have escaped as by a miracle, after being so shattered by the British cannon; all this possessed something of the terrible. But in Cadiz, the consequences, though equally apparent, were of a far different nature. Ten days after the battle they were still employed in bringing ashore the wounded, and spectacles were hourly displayed at the wharfs and through the streets, sufficient to shock every heart not yet hardened to scenes of blood and human sufferings. When by the carelessness of the boatmen, and the surging of the sea, the boats struck against the stone piers, a horrid cry which pierced the soul arose from the mangled wretches on board. Many of the Spanish gentry assisted in bringing them ashore, with symptoms of much compassion: yet as they were finely dressed it had something of the appearance of ostentation, if there could be ostentation at such a moment. It need not be doubted that an Englishman lent a willing hand to bear them up the steps to their litters; yet the slightest false step made them shriek out, and I even yet shudder at the remembrance of the sound.

" On the tops of the pier the scene was affecting. The wounded were carrying away to the hospitals in every shape of human misery, whilst crowds of Spaniards either assisted or looked on with signs of horror. Meanwhile, their companions who had escaped unhurt, walked up and down with folded arms and down-cast eyes, whilst women sat upon heaps of arms, broken furniture and baggage, with their heads bent between their knees. I had no inclination to follow the litters of the wounded; yet I learnt that every hospital in Cadiz was already full, and that convents and churches were forced to be appropriated to the reception of the remainder.

" If leaving the harbour I passed through the town to the point, I still beheld the terrible effects of the battle. As far as the eye could reach, the sandy side of the isthmus bordering on the Atlantic, was covered with masts and yards, the wrecks of ships, and here and there the bodies of the dead. Among others I noticed a topmast marked with the name of the Swiftsure, and the broad arrow of England, which only encreased my anxiety to know how far the English had suffered; the Spaniards still continuing to affirm, that they have lost their chief admiral and half their fleet. While surrounded by these wrecks, I mounted on the cross-trees of a mast which had been thrown ashore, and casting my eyes over the ocean, beheld at a great distance, several masts and portions of wreck still floating about. As the sea was now almost calm, with a slight swell, the effect produced by these objects had in it something of a sublime melancholy, and touched the soul with the remembrance of the sad vicissitudes of human affairs. The portions of floating wreck were visible from the ramparts; yet not a boat dared to venture out to examine or endeavour to tow them in, such was the apprehensions which still filled their minds of the enemy."

CURIOUS LETTER *from* T. S. *to his* WIFE.

London Friday June the 5th 1807.

My Dear Wife,

THIS Cometh with my kind & Affectn[d] Love to you My blessing to my Children and Grand Children, my kind love to my Sister and to all Friends & Aquaintance. My Duty to M[rs] C——— at S[t] Keain—my Sarvice to Mr. Rich[d] & to all his Sisters hoping at my return i shall Have y[e] Pleasure to see M[rs] M——— down in the parlor In good health with a young Daughter—I am so much Taken up with London i hope by y[e] blessing of God within Two Years to take the Second trip

trip to London—I am in Good health and high Spirits—my Son and Familly is in Good Health & so is my Daughter, their kind Love to Mary to their Brother and Sister P——— Nancy and to all The Children Friends and Acquaintance Hoping that This Letter will have ye Happiness in finding you all in Good Health as when i left Liskeard—the Sunday Night I sleep at Dock ye Monday at Ivy Bridge The Tuesday at Exeter—Wensday and Thursday Night in the Fly Waggon—The Friday Morning by three in ye morning we arrived at Dorchester tarried Till Five—The Fly Waggon and I sot off together I went that Day To ye City of Sallsbuary being 38 miles i beate the Fly Waggon by six hours, ye Satterday I tarried in Salsbury All day to see the Citey and Markett—Potatoes 5d per Gallon Victals just ye same as in Liskd—Mackrell one Shilling Each—The Sunday I went 25 Miles the Sunday Night 16 Milles The Monday 23 Miles i came to Blanford by 5 in ye Afternoon The Election being their I had not the Happiness of seeing my son Till night as in that Town three signs of ye Red Lions—by 12 at Night we arrivd safe to London—in going home in oxford street to see many hunds Lamps burning all at once supprising to any Stranger—Carrages by Hundereds—Tuesday afternoon we went to see the Prence of Wales house Cavendish Square St James Square hay Markett—Wensday morning went to the Kings Palace—the Queens Pallace where i was admitted to the Dukes of Yorks House—St James Park—Westminster Bridge—White Hall—Westminster Hall—The Serpintine—From Liskeard to London 243 miles—Two Cities—Borrough Towns—7 Counteys—The Thursday myself and Son toock a Trip for the Citey and Borrough of London—First i went under Temple Barr to St Pauls—New Gate—to the City Hall and Town Hall—The Mansionhouse—to the Bank of England—to the Exchange—Genereall post office—the Tower of London—Bedleam—to the Monnement London Bridge—Black Fryers bridge—The Friday the 29th of May i went to High park to see the Fireing—Elizabeth D—— that was very hartey to me at Chidley i am quite sory to inform you, that Chidley is just All ye Town burnt down except the Church and 7 houses—When i leave London my children will not Suffer me To come down by Water so i shall return home ye same way I came to London—I past by a Field of Wheat in full blosom in Hampshere at Husband Pryer if dry weather will be Reaped ye latter end of June—My Love to Mr. E—— and Familly and to all at Trembraze—Nigh a bout 12 in the Night as i arrived safe to London a barbarous murder was committed on a waggoner a watchman and one besides in Drury lane, being so public a place as any in London—The Waggoner and Watchman since dead, with their bowels Dropping out running after the 5 Rogues—the other yet alive with a great

great cut in his side—2 is taken and sent to Jele—Sunday May 31st--By Ten in the Forenoon Myself Son and Daughter Mr. John G—— we went to the King^{s} Palace Yard where we had the Pleasure with some Hund^{rs} Specttators to see the King^{s} Foot Gards in their new Regimentals in Gold Lace ye Beautiful band Indeed with Flying Coullors—From their they marched to the Queen^{s} Palace St James Park Buckingham house—After we went to Westminster Abbey to Morning Sarvice—while the Minister is preaching you shall see 100 people walking the Carthedrall to see what Beautifull monnoment^{s} Is their of King^{s} Duke^{s} Killingrew Milton Shakespear Cp^{r} Montegue Bishop^{s} and others of Great Quallity—I like London so I shall take by the Blessing of God The second Trip to Town —After service we went to the Parlament house to the Warr-office, where their is a Tilligraff on ye top of ye house which bringth Intellagence from the land^{s} End in Cornwall—In St James Park their is a Beautifull Brass Cannon the French Dogs taken from the Turks—and retaken by the English—The weight 60 Hundred weight—In our returning home the Sunday you would Think their was a very Large Fair—for Sweetharts to see so many stonnings in the Streets—By the Blessing of God next week i intend To take a Trip one whole day to see weither i am not able to walk from one end of London to the other—Pease 12^{s} a Quart—Coucombers 2^{s} 6^{d} Each—Mackrell 1^{s} 6^{d} Each—Tuesday Eveling we went to Covent Garden from their to Drurylane Playhouse—Computed to be their 8 Thousand People—Recev^{d} above 7 Hundred Pounds—The Wensday to Chellsia Collage a very neat Place Indeed—The talk in London is the French Army is Oblige to Eate their War Horses for Want of Provisions—In Malltia for Mutiny 14 where Shot & 12 Hang^{d} Belonging to a Foreign Regtment—the last that was Taken was a Black and so they sarve him as he deservd—June the 3^{d} in the Afternoon had the Pleasure in Seeing the Ducke of York—Lord Chancelor—Duck^{s} And Gennerals Paying a Visit at the Queen^{s} Palace—June the 4th being the King^{s} Birth—At 6 oClock in the Morning the Bells begone to Ring all over London—we went to Towerhill By Twelve—About 5 miles from Chesterfield—At One a bove Four Score Large Cannons Was Fired with many Hundreds of Spectators—By 6 In the Eveling all the Mail Coches in England past the Royal Familly in their new Clothing—at Night a Grand Lumination by ye Kings Party—one Gentleman's house near the Pallace had Two Thousand Lamps—Next week before I leave London we Intend To Take a Trip by Land to Deptford and Greenage in Kent to return to London by water —Please to send me a Letter by return of Post if posible for all of us is Longing to hear from You all—Please to let me know how Mrs M——— is and Child and their Son Richard

And

And all the Familly—Mrs. L—— and Familly—Mrs. C—— to St Kean and all the Familly—Mrs. N—— and Familly—and All Relations And Aquaintance Pleaise to let them all Know the Wedding and Christing will be on Monday ye 15th day of June—the 17th by the Blessing of God I leave London—the Latter End of June I hope to have tha Happiness In Findeing you All in good Health as when I left you—i return home ye same way I Came—I have had the Pleasure in Secing more of London Then Thousands born in the Place—Yesterday, Lamb 20s a Quarter—Pease 12s a Quart—Sammon 5s p^{r} Pound—Coucomers 2s 6d Each from Your Ever Loving and Affectnate Husband

THO^{s} S——

NUPTIAL CEREMONIES,

PRACTISED BY THE LOWER ORDER OF NORWEGIANS;

Which, in many Particulars, are not unlike those observed in the Principality of Wales.

THE discharge of cannon and other fire-arms echoing through the surrounding mountains—the beat of drums, and the playing of fifes, and violins, together with the madning shouts of a vast cavalcade of horsemen in grand procession, announce the return of the bride from church; whereupon she is conducted to the cook house of her parents for the purpose of tasting the many different dishes which are preparing for the wedding party. These dishes principally consist of bread, butter, and dravle*, soup, fish, roast meat, cheese, of various kinds, and sometimes sweet cakes and tarts. She is then from the kitchen handed into the wedding apartments, where a psalm is sung with great solemnity; grace being then performed, the guests sit down to dinner, after which grace is again said, and the company in turns sing epithalamiums.

At the close of the feast the kiogmester†, by way of diverting the company, comes forward in the character of a witty buffoon, holding in one hand a cup, and a silk handkerchief in the other, which he spreads over the cup for the purpose of receiving in it dowry from the company. The bridegroom and bride first describe what they have to present to each other: he commonly gives her a horse, saddle, and other equipage; and

* Dravle, or Dravel, is prepared from new milk boiled in an earthen pot, and mixed with a small portion of runnet, cinnamon, &c. the milk becomes coagulated, and is eat with cream, &c.

† Master of the ceremonies.

and she to him a made-up bed, &c. whereupon the party comes forward with their offerings, which the kiogmester loudly cries up—one specie rigsdaler, one rigsdaler, one crown, which are generally the gifts of the relations of the parties, others give less.

The festive scene is concluded with dancing in every apartment of the house. The haylofts and other outhouses are employed for the same purpose; in short, the farm-yard, and every clear corner round the dwelling, are the scenes of rural mirth and jocund festivity.

ACCOUNT *of* SESOSTRIS, KING *of* EGYPT.

THE earliest and most conspicuous Greek account of Sesostris is that which occurs in the second book of Herodotus, an historian who flourished about four hundred and fifty years before Christ. A second account occurs in the first book of Diodorus Siculus, who flourished about four hundred years later than Herodotus, under the Emperor Augustus. Except in these two accounts, no details of the life and deeds of Sesostris have been given by the classical historians; although incidental mention of him, as the first great conqueror, is frequent. So that an examination of these two accounts will suffice to bring forwards what is supposed to be known concerning him.

I. Herodotus states (Euterpe, 101) that after Mœris, who built a new porch to the temple of Vulcan, and who also built vast pyramids in Egypt, flourished Sesostris.

"This Sesostris (continues Herodotus, II. 102), as the priests tell us, was the first, who, in long boats, sallied from the Arabic gulf to overturn the settlers on the Red Sea. Proceeding further, he came to a frith unnavigable from its shallows. Thence returning to Egypt, according to the records of the priests, and raising a numerous army, he overspread the continent, and overturned all the impeding nations."

Herodotus proceeds to say that Sesostris passed from Syria into Europe, subduing Scythians and Thracians (Euterpe, 103); and that he left a colony on the river Phasis, as he returned. "The Egyptians maintain (adds Herodotus, 104) that the Colchians descend from these troops of Sesostris; and this I can believe, as they have black complexions and woolly hair, and practice circumcision, a rite peculiar to the Colchians, Egyptians, and Æthiopeans. The Phœnicians and Syrians of Palestine confess to have received this practice from the Egyptians. The Colchians (he says further, 105) manufacture such linen as the Egyptians.

"Of

" Of the pillars which in the conquered districts Sesostris, the king of Egypt, erected, not many appear to remain."

" This Egyptian Sesostris being returned (continues our historian, II. 107) and bringing with him many men of the subverted nations, he was invited, the priests say, at the Pelusian Daphne, by a brother whom he had put over Egypt, he and his family to a feast. The house was surrounded with combustibles, and set on fire: which when Sesostris discovered, he deliberated with his wife on the means of escape; and with her consent used two of her children as stepping-stones athwart the burning pyre. These two children being sacrificed, the rest were saved with their father."

" Sesostris being returned into Egypt (Euterpe, 108) took vengeance on his brother. Of the many captives brought home he made this use: they had to drag stones of immense length for the temple of Vulcan, and were compelled to dig at those ditches with which Egypt is intersected."

" Thus was Egypt regularly divided (Euterpe, 109), and a square plot of ground was assigned by this king to each Egyptian, and a quit rent was imposed to be paid yearly; and if any suffered by the falling short of the inundation of the Nile, he might certify it to the king, and the king sent commissioners to measure the dry land, and to abate the tax upon it; hence arose geometry."

" Only this king of Egypt (Euterpe, 110) could master Æthiopia. He left a monument before the temple of Vulcan, two stone statues of thirty cubits, representing himself and wife, and four stone statues of twenty cubits representing his children.

" Sesostris was succeeded (Euterpe, 111) by a son, Pheron, who lost his sight."

Here is all, concerning Sesostris, that Herodotus has related. This historian, if credulous, is always a faithful reporter. His opportunities of information were comprehensive, having travelled into Egypt and Syria, and consulted on the spot the archives of several temples. The great revolution of a Babylonian conquest of Palestine having intervened between the times of Sesostris, and Herodotus, much definite evidence must have been abolished, and reduced to vague tradition. His testimony however, may be accepted as in the main satisfactory: only it remains improbable that the son of a judge, or petty king, of Egypt, should have extended his conquests so far northwards, as to make war with the Thracians, and to leave a colony at Colchis on the Euxine.

II. Didorus Siculus states (I. 34) that Sesostris was also called Secosis: that he was educated with those of his own age to military exercises, and was sent by his father with an army into Arabia; that he was distinguished for an hereditary

piety to Vulcan; and that he divided his country into *nomes*, or tribes, or provinces, and appointed prefects over each. He next made an expedition into Libya: and then into Æthiopia, where he imposed a tribute of ivory and gold. At length, influenced by his daughter Athyrte, he undertook the conquest of Asia and of the world. Diodorus makes these conquest extend to the Ganges and the Tanais: from Babylon his Sesostris brings captives who found the Babylon of the Egyptians, who build temples without number, who dig canals and reservoirs, and who fortify Egypt by a great wall against the Syrians and Arabs. Sesostris also constructs an ark, or floating temple, two hundred and eighty cubits long, gilt without and silvered within. He erects two obelisks inscribed with the list of his provinces and his taxes. He employs noble captives to carry his palanquin. Being at his brother's house, an attempt was made to destroy it by fire; Sesostris commemorated his escape by erecting statues before the temple of Vulcan at Memphis. In the thirty-third year of his reign he became blind; after which he killed himself. He was succeeded by a son, who assumed the same name, and lost his sight like his father.

After condensing and combining these two statements, and dismissing what is marvellous, inconsistent or otherwise improbable, it may be presumed that Sesostris, or Sesosis, originated near Memphis, probably on the eastern bank of the Nile, which was called the land of Goshen, as his brother resided there: that he passed the Red Sea, explored its further coast, returned among his own people, and at the head of an army of rebel slaves conquered Palestine, and divided his jurisdiction into *nomes*, or tribes: that he set up pillars in memory of his success, which remained when Herodotus wrote: that he was distinguished for piety to Vulcan, and for a long reign.

TEA-URNS.

TEA-URNS pass for a modern and a British invention: their application only is new. I have seen among the finds at Pompeii, preserved in the museum of Portici, an urn containing a hollow metallic cylinder, for the insertion of red-hot iron, in which water was thus kept boiling. The whole apparatus in form and structure closely resembles our own utensils. Hero, in his Pneumatica, describes this machine by the name *anthepsa*. Cicero mentions it in his oration for Roscius Amerinus as of Corinthian origin. The Chinese have it not; for in Kien Long's Ode to Tea he describes a kettle on the fire.

An ANECDOTE.

DURING the celebrated controversy betwixt Mr. Boyle and Dr. Bentley, on the subject of the epistles of Phalaris, some Cambridge wags exhibited in a print Phalaris's guards thrusting Dr. Bentley into the tyrant's brazen bull, and this label issuing from the doctor's mouth, "I had much rather be roasted than *boyl'd!*"

DANCING ASSES.

IF we may believe what John Leo tells us in his description of Egypt, the ass would not seem to be so stupid and indocile an animal as he is commonly represented.—"When the Mahometan sermons and worship are over, the common people of Cairo, with the whores and bawds, resort to the part of the suburbs called Bed-Elloch, as well as the stage-players, and those who teach camels, asses, and dogs to dance. The dancing of the ass is diverting enough; for after he has frisked and capered about, his master tells him, that the soldan, meaning to build a great palace, intends to employ all the asses in carrying mortar, stones, and other materials; upon which the ass falls down with his heels upwards, closing his eyes, and making his belly to swell as if he were dead.

"This done, the master begs some assistance of the company, to make up for the loss of the dead ass; and having spunged as much as he can get, gives them to know, that truly his ass is not dead, but only being sensible of his majesty's necessity, played that trick to procure some provender. Then he commands the ass to rise, who still lies in the same posture, notwithstanding all the blows he can give him; 'till at last he proclaims, that, by virtue of an edict by the soldan, all the handsome ladies are bound to ride out next day upon the comeliest asses they can find, in order to see a triumphal show, and to entertain their asses with oats and Nile water; for the words are no sooner pronounced than the ass starts up and prances and leaps for joy. But he immediately gives out that his ass was pitched upon by the warden of his street to carry his deformed and ugly wife, upon which the ass lowers his ears, and limps with one of his legs as if he were lame. Then the master, alledging that his ass has a kindness for handsome women, commands him to single out the prettiest lady in the company; and accordingly he makes his choice by going round, and touching one of the prettiest with his head, upon which the company divert themselves by laughing, and pointing to the ass's sweetheart."—Harris's Collection of Voyages, &c. vol. i. p. 354, ed. 1705.

Answer, by a Private of the Loyal Menenge Volunteers, to J. A. Dyer's Rebus, inserted May 11.

YOUR rebus still did me provoke,
'Till I had found the ARTICHOKE.

*** Similar anwers have been also received from J. R. S.R. of Awliscombe; H. Ellis, of Exeter; W. D. of Bristol; J. Whitnell, of Street; H. Easter, of Poole; J. Joyce, of Tiverton; a serjeant of the Broadhembury volunteers; W. Smith, of Plymouth Dock; W. H. H. of Totnes; J. Woodman, of North Curry; and J. Ryan.

Answer, by W. D. of Bristol, to T. Rutger's Charade, inserted May 18.

THE pious man, when on his bed of death,
Serenely bids FAREWELL, and yields his breath.

*** Similar answers have been received from H Ellis, of Exeter; John Woodman, of North Curry; a serjeant of the Broadhembury volunteers; J. R. S. R. of Awliscombe; J. A. Dyer, of Taunton; J. Ryan; and James Whitnell, of Street.

Answer, by H. Ellis, of Exeter, to W. Terdinnick's Rebus, inserted May 18.

TOPAZ, Sir, I now protest,
Will solve the rebus you suggest.

☞ We have received the like answer from W. D. of Bristol; a serjeant of the Broadhembury volunteers; J. Ryan; and J. Whitnell, of Street.

An ANAGRAM, *by J. Ryan.*

PART of your dress aright transpose,
A foreign town you will disclose.

A CHARADE, *by H. Easter, of Poole.*

MY first you'll find to be a measure;
My second you may read at leisure:
My whole, with ease, I'm sure you'll tell,
For in our ships its known full well.

An ENIGMA, *by J. A. Dyer, of Taunton.*

WHILE skilful poets tales of battle chuse,
A humbler theme employs my lowly muse;
Nor will I speak of men with warlike coats,
Of shedding blood, or cutting foreign threats;
And yet by my appearance you might swear,
That I an officer or soldier were;
For warlike purposes I ne'er was made,
Connected close with merchandize and trade;
And (what, perhaps, may give you cause to wonder)
I pence and shillings often keep asunder.
Within a newspaper I've never been,
But yearly in an almanack am seen.

POETRY.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

DOMESTIC PEACE.

HAIL dove-ey'd peace! celestial offspring hail!
Blest inmate of this favour'd, happy isle!
Fain would the muse attune the sacred lyre,
To sing those joys thy sacred name inspires;
To sing thy worth, where no internal broils,
The fruit of industry and labour spoils;
Where thou, secure from war's destructive race,
To man giv'st power thy blessings to increase.

Fair Albion smiles! The glorious claim her boast,
Her people happy, and secure her coast,
Proudly she sits, enthron'd beneath thy wing,
From thee enjoying all those gifts that spring.

Whilst far o'er Europe's plains war's vengeful ire
Spreads devastation round, while vengeance dire,
Imperious, at a tyrant's fell command,
Spreads death and desolation o'er the land;
While shrieks from dying victims rend the skies,
And swift the vanquish'd from th' conq'ror flies;
While towns and cities, once their nations' pride,
Are ransack'd, pillag'd, or by fire destroy'd;
While kings, ev'n emp'rors, trembling on the throne,
A petty province scarce can call their own—
'Tis thine O Britain! midst this scene of woe,
T' enjoy those blessings that from peace do flow.

Thrice happy nation! blest indeed art thou,
Tho' wreaths of laurel twine the victor's brow,
Tho' menac'd by invasion's pow'rful host,
Secure by nature, guarded well thy coast,
Long may'st thou mock ambition's wild career,
And hold each blessing to thy subjects dear;
Bid commerce smile, and in the arms of peace,
Domestic comforts, wealth, and joys encrease.

And O ye great! to whom the trust belongs,
That sacred trust, t'avenge a nation's wrongs,
O! may your prompt decisions merit claim,
And Britain lead to glory and to fame,
Secure internal rest from discord free,
Yielding those blessings to posterity:
Thus while sweet peace and unity combine,
Britannia! long may'st thou in splendour shine,
And each revolving year thy subjects prove,
A life of freedom, liberty, and love.

Clowance. T. R.

MASTER MOWBRAY.

O! little did his mother dream,
Proceeding to the fair,

Her

Her darling, by a cruel team,
Would meet disaster there!

And little did his father dread,
Whom cares at home detain,
No more, 'till number'd with the dead,
To see his son again.

Up Portsdown* in his mother's hand,
Th' exulting boy ascends:
Fairings invite on ev'ry stand—
He meets with troops of friends.

Adown the hills, as pleasure leads,
He bounds with nimble heel,
But swifter run yon frighted steeds—
Ah! faster rolls the wheel!

All mangled is that lovely form,
Which shone with grace before;
And, like the ruins of a storm,
That face is fair no more;

And faultering is that tuneful tongue,
And dim that closing eye;
And ev'ry nerve is now unstrung,
And death is in that sigh.

"O! were I in my father's bed!"
The fainting suff'rer cry'd;
His weeping mother hung her head—
He kiss'd her cheek, and dy'd!

They bore him to his father's bed,
The bed to him so dear;
They bore him to his father's bed—
That bed is now his bier.

O! long, long will his playmates look
For Mowbray as they roam;
And never will his parents brook
Their childless, cheerless home.

With him, when age should comfort crave,
They hop'd to end their care!
Now, nought but hope beyond the grave
Can smooth their passage there!

J. MAYNE.

* Portsdown is a hill in the neighbourhood of Portsmouth, where there is an annual fair. The calamity which gave occasion to these verses happened July 29, 1806.

TO SLEEP.

O SLEEP! if in thy shadowy gloom
Oblivion's awful genius dwell,
Then, sleep, thy gifted wand assume,
And lead me to thy peaceful cell.

But there should memory's pow'r prevail,
In vain on thee would sorrow call;
Thine opiate dews, thy charms would fail,
And fear the breast of grief appal.

To save the soul from vision's woe,
To snatch her from thy terrors, sleep!
Pity would all thy spells forego,
And bid the mourner "wake to weep!"

HARMODIUS.